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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
TAKASHI ARAI	)	Examiner: M. Blouin
Application No.: 09/877,092	)	Group Art Unit: 2653
Filed: June 11, 2001	)	
For: FOAM MOLDING METHOD AND )	:	
APPARATUS	:	June 24, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2005, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged the existence of four patentably distinct inventions:

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|-----------|--|
| Group I:  | Claims 1-12, 17, 19-22, 36, <sup>1</sup> 41, 54 and 55, drawn to a method of molding a foam/resin product, classified in class 260, subclass 998.16; |
| Group II: | Claims 13-16 and 18, drawn to a molding apparatus, classified in class 260, subclass 998.16;   |

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<sup>1/</sup> The Examiner confirmed in a telephonic interview that claim 36 should be included in Group I rather than in Group III.